

# The Cheerful Letter

EVERY PLACE A CHURCH; EVERY DAY THE LORD'S DAY; ALL EVENTS BLESSINGS; ALL JOY  
THANKSGIVING; AND ALL NATURE AND LIFE FULL OF GOD.—*James Freeman Clarke*

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## THE CANTICLE OF THE SUN

*(Written seven hundred years ago, in Italy)*

O MOST HIGH, ALMIGHTY, GOOD LORD GOD,  
to Thee belong praise, glory, honor, and all  
blessing.

Praised be my Lord God, with all His creatures,  
and especially our brother the Sun, who brings  
us the day and who brings us the light: fair is he,  
and he shines with a very great splendor. O  
Lord, he signifies to us—Thee!

Praised be my Lord for our sister the Moon,  
and for the stars, the which He has set clear and  
lovely in the heaven!

Praised be my Lord for our brother the Wind,  
and for air and clouds, calms and all weather, by  
which Thou upholdest life and all creatures!

Praised be my Lord for our sister, Water, who  
is very serviceable to us, and humble, and pre-  
cious, and clean!

Praised be my Lord for our brother, Fire,  
through whom Thou givest us light in the dark-  
ness; and he is bright, and pleasant, and very  
mighty and strong!

Praised be my Lord for our mother, the Earth,  
the which doth sustain us and keep us; and  
bringeth forth divers fruits, and flowers of many  
colors, and grass!

Praised be my Lord for all those who pardon  
one another for love's sake, and who endure  
weakness and tribulation: blessed are they who  
peacefully shall endure, for Thou, O Most High,  
wilt give them a crown!

Praise ye, and bless the Lord, and give thanks  
to Him, and serve Him with great humility.—  
*Francis of Assisi.*

Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be  
strong; fear not; behold your God will come  
and save you.—*Isaiah xxxv: 4.*

They helped every one his neighbor; and every  
one said to his brother, Be of good courage.—  
*Isaiah xli: 6.*

## THE PURPOSE AND USE OF COMFORT

*Blessed be the God of all comfort, who comforteth us in  
all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them  
which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we  
ourselves are comforted of God.—II Corinthians i:3,4.*

THE desire for comfort may be a very high or  
a very low, a noble or a most ignoble wish. And  
the difference in the way in which people ask  
comfort of God, no doubt, depends very largely  
upon the reason why they ask it—upon what it  
is that makes them wish God would take away  
their pain and comfort them. This, I think,  
applies to what St. Paul says about the comfort  
which God had given him. He gave it its  
deepest and most unselfish reason, and so the  
fact of God's comforting him became the exal-  
tation and the strengthening of his life. The  
point is this: Paul thanked God because the  
comfort which had come to him gave him the  
power to comfort other people.

Now, my friends, try to recall the joy and  
peace and thankfulness that have ever filled  
your hearts when you became thoroughly sure  
that God had relieved you from some great  
danger, or opened His hand and shed upon you  
some great blessing. Think how you thanked  
Him. But ask yourself at the same time, "Did  
it seem the most precious part of all my blessing,  
that God had done this for me just to make me  
a fitter and more transparent medium through  
which He might send his comfort to other men?"  
That was the beauty of God's comfort to St. Paul.

I think that the power of Paul—or of any  
man—to grasp and realize the high idea of the  
purpose of the help which God sends shows a  
very clear understanding that it is really God  
who sends the help. All really great ideas out-go  
our individual life, and make us feel our human  
nature. If you are not sure that any mercy  
comes to you from God, if your health or the  
saving of your fortune seems to you a piece of  
luck, then you may be meanly and miserably  
selfish about it. But if the light came from God,

if He gave you this blessing, it is too big for you to keep to yourself; He must have meant it for a wider circle than your little life can cover; and it breaks through your selfishness to find for itself the mission that it claims.

The only way to come close to and to care for men is to realize God. The only way to love the children is to know the Father. The only way to make it our joy to help mankind is to feel all through us the certainty that the help which has come to us has come from God.

Go on a little further. A man whose first thought about any mercy to himself is that God means by it to help other people, must have something else besides this strong belief that his mercy does really come from God. He must have genuine unselfishness and true humility. He must have a habit of looking out beyond himself. Reverence, humility, unselfishness. God helps one man to bear his pain, and nobody but that one man is a whit the better for it. God comes to another sufferer, reverent, unselfish, humble, and the wretched are comforted all around by the radiated comfort of that happy soul.

God loves each of us distinctly, separately, and blesses each of us out of His personal love. Whatever mercy falls into our lot is warm with the *personal* love of Him who sends it. But the simpler ideas of religion include the more profound, and open into them without losing their own simplicity. The more we realize God's vaster purposes, the more dearly we can feel His personal care.

And one thing more let me say here. This higher thought of God and His blessings will always be easier and more real to us in proportion as we dwell habitually upon the profounder and more spiritual of His mercies. If what I am in the habit of thanking God for is mainly food and clothes and house, it will not be easy for me to realize the deepest purpose for which God gives me those things. It will be very easy for me to take them as if the final purpose of them was that I might be warm and well fed. But if what I thank Him for is spiritual strength, if what I thank Him for most is that He gives me Himself—then I cannot resist the tendency of that mercy to outgrow my life.

We take God's gifts most completely for ourselves when we realize that He sends them to us for the benefit of other men who stand beyond us, needing them. "For their sakes I sanctify myself," said Jesus. There was the power by which He was holy. The world was to be made holy—to be sanctified—through Him.

I have not painted an ideal, impossible picture. This truth and all the motives that flow from it may really fill your life. They filled the life of Christ. Come near to Him; be like Him; and they shall fill yours. So your Gethsemane and

the angels that come to you after it may be precious to you as His were to Him—not only for the peace which they brought Him, but because they were to be the fountain of strength and hope to countless souls forever. May God grant us something of the privilege of Christ, which was to live a manly life for God's sake, and also to live a godly life for man's sake. For it was thus that He was a mediator between God and man.—*Phillips Brooks.*

### WHO BY SEARCHING CAN FIND OUT GOD?

I CANNOT find Thee! Still on restless pinion  
My spirit beats the void where Thou dost dwell;

I wander lost through all Thy vast dominion,  
And shrink beneath Thy light ineffable.

I cannot find Thee! Even when most adoring  
Before Thy shrine I bend in lowliest prayer,  
Beyond these bounds of thought, my thought  
upsoaring,  
From furthest quest comes back: Thou art  
not there.

Yet high above the limits of my seeing,  
And folded far within the inmost heart,  
And deep below the deeps of conscious being,  
Thy splendor shineth; there, O God, Thou art.

I cannot lose Thee! Still in Thee abiding,  
The end is clear, how wide so e'er I roam;  
The Law that holds the worlds my steps is  
guiding,  
And I must rest at last in Thee, my home.

—*Eliza Scudder*

### HOW OTHER PEOPLE GET AHEAD

OUR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT has prepared a little book with this title—a book of sixteen pages—about Thrift as the key to independence and success. It contains advice which is of practical value to everybody who earns any money at all. In it the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States sends us all a helpful message.

Write a letter or a postal card asking for the booklet on *How Other People Get Ahead*. Sign your name clearly and give your post-office address in full. Send the letter (or card) to: The United States Government Savings System, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

This is the day which the Lord hath made.  
I will rejoice and be glad in it.



## THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB

Send all offers and requests for this department to Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass.  
Tel. Granite 1140

Please remember, when you see a request for a book in the Book Club, to write a card to Mrs. Nichols, asking "Shall I send such a book to such a person?" before sending it, else the person who requests it may receive several copies. When any one writes directly to you, asking for a book offered by you, send a card to Mrs. Nichols, saying that you have sent it. When you receive more requests than you can meet, send those to the Book Club to be printed here.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

*Please read and follow the suggestions*

It will greatly aid those who are sending books, magazines, cards, and so forth, if all our correspondents who send requests for their children will take pains to mention their names and ages. Lacking such information, one is likely to make mistakes; for a boy of twelve and a girl of seven are not usually interested in the same things.

When requesting books for the first time, correspondents should always give, as reference, the name and address of their clergyman.

When correspondents move to a new address, notice should be sent either to our headquarters, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., or to those persons who have been sending books and magazines.

*It is necessary that letters be written with ink.*

Those who enjoy receiving books and magazines are asked to remember that they, in their turn, can give much pleasure if they will take pains to write to the persons who send such reading matter. In cases where no word of response goes back—not even to say that the books or magazines were received—senders may suppose the parcels were not welcome. Let us each do our share towards a friendly understanding.

## OFFERS

The Brookline (First Parish) Branch offers the following books and magazines. Address Miss Martha W. Suter, 116 Warren Street, Brookline, Mass.

*Magazines*

*American Cookery*, 1921

*Atlantic Monthly*, 1920, 1921, 1922

*Books*

Japanese Flower Arrangement, by Averill  
Sunday School Bibles (some with covers damaged)

Arts and Artists, by Clement  
55th Artillery in the A. E. F., by Cutler  
Woman's Hardy Garden, by Ely  
Wit, Wisdom and Poetry of Heine (in English)  
Prince of the House of David, by Ingraham  
Life and Work of Edward A. Lawrence, Jr.  
Masterpieces of Michelangelo  
Poetical Works, by Meredith  
Poetical Works, by Proctor  
Doctor Antonio, a Tale of Italy, by Ruffini  
Recollections of an Old Musician, by Ryan  
Shakespeare's Works  
Verses by H. H.  
Hitherto, by Whitney

*Schoolbooks*

Mechanical Drawing, by Anthony  
Constitution of the United States and Ten Leading Cases in Interpretation of It  
Introduction to Zoölogy, by Davenport

How Plants Grow, by Gray  
Commercial Geography, by Robinson  
Introduction to Chemical Science, by Williams  
Insects at Home, by Wood  
Young Folks' History of England, by Yonge

*English*

Notes on English Literature, by Emery  
High School Exercises in Grammar, by Frank  
Constructive Exercises in English, by Frank  
Longer English Poems, by Hales  
Spelling Review, by Lester  
Principles of Success in Literature, by Lewes  
Longman's Briefer Grammar; Philosophy of Style, by Spencer  
English Grammar and Reading Book, by Hancock  
Handbook of English Literature (American Authors), by Underwood  
Story of English Literature (Chaucer to Cowper), by White

*French*

Complete French Course, by Chardenal  
Lettres de mon moulin, by Daudit  
Une introduction à la langue française, by Dodge  
L'évasion du duc de Beaufort, by Dumas  
Le chien du capitaine, by Enault  
Contes et légendes, by Guerber  
Fables de La Fontaine  
L'Avare, by Molière  
Britannicus, by Molière  
Translating English into French, by Sadler

Causeries avec mes élèves, by Sauveur  
 Premières leçons de grammaire française, by  
 Sauveur  
 Bataille de dames, by Scribe

#### German

Bible  
 Dictionary  
 Im Zwielicht, by Bernhardt  
 Die Ahnen, by Freytag  
 Der Armer Spielman, by Grillporzer  
 Märchen und Erzählungen, by Guerber  
 Historische Erzählungen, by Hoffman  
 Brief German Course, by Kayser  
 Traumereien, by Leander  
 German Grammar, by Meissner  
 Maria Stuart and Die Jungfrau von Orleans, by  
 Schiller  
 Der Katzensteg, by Sudermann  
 Meisterwerke des Mittelalters, by Weneckeboch

#### Latin

Introduction to Latin Composition, by Allen  
 Cicero, by Allen & Greenough  
 Latin Grammar, by Allen & Greenough  
 Poems of Ovid, Selections, by Bain  
 Second-Year Latin Dictionary  
 Elementary Latin Dictionary  
 Essentials of Latin for Beginners, by Pearson

#### Mathematics

Standard Arithmetic, by Milne  
 Business Arithmetic, by Thurston  
 Exercise Manual: Arithmetic, by Wentworth  
 First Course Algebra, by Hawkes  
 Second Course Algebra, by Hawkes  
 High School Algebra, by Slaughter  
 Elementary Algebra, by Smith  
 Essentials of Algebra, by Wells  
 New School Algebra, by Wentworth

Mrs. R. D. Lampson, Jefferson, Ohio, will be glad to give the *National Stockman and Farmer*, also *Hoard's Dairyman*—both weekly publications.

#### REQUESTS

1. I am a married woman, aged 28, the mother of four children: oldest girl 8 years, next girl 6 years, next one a boy, 3 years, and a baby boy of 6 months. I live near a small city. My husband's occupation is painting, and he has been out of work quite a while on account of bad weather, which has put us in a very bad shape. I would be glad of a correspondent and also some good reading, as I am not able to buy reading. (Mrs.) C. M. Hayden, Martinsville, Va.

2. I am a shut-in in the winter and get very lonely. Cards and picture books will be greatly

appreciated by my little daughter, 4 years old. My husband would also like reading. (Mrs.) G. W. Hall, Elamsville, Va., Box 28.

3. I have been an invalid for many years, entirely shut-in, and would be glad to have a dictionary, and magazines, especially *Needlecraft*. Mary E. Foster, Ferguson, N. C. (For reference: J. F. Craig, Ferguson, N. C.)

4. I would be glad to receive the gift of quilt-scrap, and bits of embroidery thread to work the children's dresses, also playthings and story-books, or anything suitable for the children. We are poor people and have to work hard to live. I have two little girls: Sarah, aged 11 years, and Margaret, aged 8 years. It seems hard sometimes to keep them at school. (Mrs.) W. R. Huddleston, Farmville, Va., Box 118.

5. I am a little girl 8 years old. I wish you would send some good story-books and cards. I go to school and am in the third grade. My teacher's name is Miss Addams. Margaret Huddleston, Farmville, Va., Box 118.

6. I would appreciate any good reading matter and scraps for patchwork, as I have my hands full. I have two children, both girls; the youngest is past two years of age. My husband works hard and I can't get away to help him. (Mrs.) Robert Johnson, Cole, Va.

7. I should be glad to receive good reading matter or letters from anyone who cares to send them. I have five children, the oldest a girl of 18, and the youngest 9 years. I am never very well and have had two operations. (Mrs.) J. F. Moorefield, Campbell, N. C. (For reference; Dr. J. H. Ellington, Sandy Ridge, N. C.)

8. *Ladies' Home Journal* is asked for by Mrs. E. M. Ames, Skowhegan, Maine; Miss Sarah J. Traywick, Marshville, N. C., Route 4; Miss Ethel Ballard, Ansonville, N. C., Box 235; Mr. B. F. Capps, Hendersonville, N. C., Route 1, Box 112.

9. I live in the country. I am about 50 years of age, if not more. My health and nerves are run down. I would be very thankful for reading and quilt-pieces. I have three little boys; the oldest one will be 13 next May, and the other two are 11 and 9 years of age. Gifts of reading and cards will be appreciated by Mrs. Mary Curry, Spencer, Va.

10. Lottie B. Reed, Athens, Maine, Mrs. J. R. Robertson, Faber, Va., R. 2, Box 32, and Mrs. H. C. Ziglar, Sandy Ridge, Va., will be glad of the *Pictorial Review*.



11. Mrs. J. K. Hilliard, Westboro, Mass., would appreciate the *People's Home Journal*.

12. Mrs. R. H. Burton, Walters, Okla., has asked for *Needlecraft*.

13. Mrs. N. A. Coleman, Amherst, Va., has asked for *The Woman's Home Companion*.

14. I am a mother of four children: oldest, Marion, 10; Nelson, 7; Neil, 4 years; Eleanor, 2 years. My husband is a cripple—has both legs off above the knee; can walk about some by using two canes. I would be glad of any good reading for the children, or toys, to pass their time away. I would be very glad to get quilt-scrap or knitting wool for myself. (Mrs.) H. L. Collins, Box 72, Draper, N. C.

15. I want to write and thank friends through the *Cheerful Letter* for the reading I have received in the past. I would be glad to hear from Mrs. A. Howe, as I have lost her address, and also would be glad to get more reading and bits of crocheting thread. My little boys, Jack and Hilbert, would love to hear from little boys and girls. Times are dull and any reading matter will be appreciated. (Mrs.) D. J. Owens, Spray, N. C.

16. I saw in the *Rural New Yorker* that you were in a position to send reading matter to those who were unable to get it. As I live forty miles from nowhere, I would like some magazines; am not particular as to kind. I have the good old *Rural* to read and would send that to anyone who desires it. H. G. Pope, Beaver Dam, N. Y.

17. I wish to thank all who have sent me reading in the past year, and hope I will still be remembered. I am 15 years of age. I go to a country school and live far out in the country, and have to work real hard. I would be glad to receive magazines, and other good reading; also scraps for patchwork, like gingham and calico, and perhaps crochet thread. I mention for reference, Mrs. W. E. Lackey, Elamsville, Va. Irene L. Pendleton, Elamsville, Va., R. 1, Box 47.

18. I am the mother of six children, three boys and three girls, all very small. My health is not very good and I am alone much of the time. Would greatly appreciate cotton pieces for quilts, and would be glad to get some cards and papers for the children. (Mrs.) R. L. Cox, Bassett, Va., Box 73.

19. I am writing you to thank you for giving me such fine friends and so much pleasure in the books, magazines, and cards the *Cheerful*

*Letter* readers have sent me. My little Bernard is now in the hospital in St. Louis. He is there by the influence of a friend I made through your paper, Dr. Mary Hobart of Needham, Mass. I told her about little crippled Bernard and now, through her help, he is gaining back his strength and will soon walk. He has been away nearly eight months now. I have some very dear pen-friends I have been corresponding with for over two years. May I thank the many kind friends who sent cards and papers, which had no address? Everyone that had an address I have written, but some had no names. I certainly appreciated it all and will be glad to receive any books and magazines sent me. My husband is away at work all day, and the children keep me in home so closely my greatest pleasure is reading. I would especially like to have two stories, "Nameless River" and "Sleeping Dogs." I read part of both in magazines a long time ago, but could never get the complete story. Would return them, paying postage if desired. May God bless you for the happiness and the friends you have brought me and mine. (Mrs.) V. L. Davis, Green Castle, Mo.

20. Mrs. Sallie M. Threadgill, Ansonville, N. C., Box 234, asks for cards and reading for her five little children. Her husband met with an accident, breaking a leg and receiving many bruises; he will be glad of reading.

21. Mrs. Lelah Mabe, Campbell, N. C., asks for "Stepping Heavenward," and "Lena Rivers," also for "Homestead on the Hillside." Any others would be appreciated much. The *Woman's Home Companion* would be enjoyed, or pictures or cards of any kind, anything that would pass away the lonely hours, especially Sunday evenings.

22. I thank you for all that has been sent to me, and will be more than glad to hear from you. There are some friends I would like to write to, but have lost their addresses, as we had a big fire here in the Fort and we lost all we had—household goods, and clothes and everything. I would also thank any friend who will send me a good cooking-book with all kinds of cooking in it, and a few story-books for my 6-year-old boy, as I read them to him, and I like to read stories, myself. I like the Northern stories and books on that order. (Mrs.) J. Becker, Fort Niagara, Youngstown, N. Y., Box 62.

23. Miss Addie Eames, Bassett, W. Va., R. F. D. 2, asks for a shower of post cards.

24. Dr. Grover C. Phillips, New London, N. C., formerly of Bear Creek, N. C., desires books on theology and Bible study, books for

children, and reading for the people in his field, which is very destitute of reading and distant from a public library. He has nine children—six boys and three girls, in all grades from the first to the seventh, except the third and sixth. He is especially anxious to get a Homiletic Commentary on the Bible; a dictionary of texts or books that will be helpful to a busy pastor in a hard field, in the preparation of sermons.

25. I cannot say I live in an isolated section, but this is my first experience on a farm. We recently purchased the farm, and every month there are many obligations to meet, leaving very little for extras. I have always been able to afford good books and magazines, and I miss them more than I can express. I take two magazines, but the long winter evenings give ample time in which I might enjoy more. I hope through your Exchange I may arrange for a little extra literature. Vera Phillips, Parish, Oswego Co., N. Y.

26. Please advise all the kind members of the *Cheerful Letter* that have so graciously sent me reading in the past to Whitakers, N. C., R. 4, that I have moved to E. Wilmington, N. C., R. 1. I should be glad to receive *Everybody's Magazine*, also some books. I especially should like some book by Eleanor Glyn. Someone sent the *Cheerful Letter* last year; I do hope I shall continue to receive it, as it is such a comfort, especially since I am among strangers and my husband works far into the night. Many thanks for past favors. I will pass all reading on. There are many worthy people here, not able to buy reading. (Mrs.) G. W. Martin, East Wilmington, N. C., R. 1.

27. I have been thinking of writing you for some time, to let you know how glad and thankful we are to you for sending and having sent to us so much good reading and scraps for quilts. I have received three or four parcels with the name of the sender torn off or unreadable, so that I could not write and acknowledge the receipt, but I appreciate their kindness just the same. If you have space, would it be too much to ask to have published our appreciation and thanks to all who have been so kind? (Mrs.) W. R. May, Lansing, N. C.

28. I would like to get a few papers and magazines to read. Hope you can help me. Elmer A. Waldo, Andover, Ohio, R. 3.

29. I hope you won't forget to send me reading, or something to do. I live in a small town at present and am going to school, but my folks live twelve miles out in a thinly settled country, and don't get the mail very often. My mother

is very weak from nerve trouble. She is fond of embroidery, crocheting and patchwork. Please remember her if you don't me, for I feel I can do without rather than she. Fay Teeples, Bridges, Mont.

30. I have been writing to the *Cheerful Letter* friends for twenty years, and have never asked for anything but reading matter, for which I am thankful. I am 44 years old the first of May and I would like a birthday party of flowers—any kind of plants or seed that I receive will be appreciated. (Mrs.) H. H. Foster, Post, Texas.

31. I wish to thank the kind members of the *Cheerful Letter* for the nice reading matter they sent me, and for the books and cards they sent my children, through the last year, at Apple Grove, N. C. I am now living in a mining camp at McAlpin, W. Va. Being away from my old home makes me lonely. Any reading matter the members may send me, and books for my four boys (ages from 3 years to 10), would be very much appreciated. (Mrs.) Bessie Hartsog.

32. I used to get some reading from you friends. I have a wife and three children. My oldest girl is 12; my boy is 10; my baby is 4 years old, and my wife is not able to do much work. I am not able to get anything for them to read. We would enjoy letters from some of you good friends, and also something to read. Please get us a correspondent to write us; it will comfort us so much. My wife has to stay in all this cold winter weather. Harris L. Huneyutt, Marshville, N. C., R. 5.

33. Do you know of anyone who will send me the *Christian Herald* and *Homiletic Review*, after they have read them? I am very anxious to get these papers, as I think they will help me in my work, but am not able to pay for them. (Rev.) D. J. Bryant, Floyd, Va., R. 1.

34. I would be so very thankful for reading for my 16- and 14-year-old girls, Sabina and Marie, and a 12-year-old boy, Joe, and some simple little books for my girl Sibyl, 9 years old. Magazines and old numbers of *Needlecraft*, the *Modern Priscilla*, or the *Youth's Companion*, would be greatly appreciated by me and some neighbors. We thank you, every one, for kindness of the past. Please let me thank the ones that remembered my little folks the past Christmas. The wrappers were so badly torn we did not get the name of the sender. (Mrs.) Ada V. Wann, Willspoint, Texas, R. 4.

35. I would like to get the *Delineator* and *Needlecraft*. I am a little girl 12 years old. I like to read and cut out pictures, and can



crochet some. If some kind friend could send me these I would be so thankful. Catherine Church, Elkin, N. C.

36. May I come again this spring to ask you if I may have some sweet-pea seed and gladiolus bulbs? This is about all the kind of flowers I can sell well, and last spring you were so kind to send seed. I raised some lovely flowers and sold a lot, which helped me so much. I have felt so grateful to all who helped me. I like to get the seed quite early, so to know how much land to get ready to plant on. My eyes trouble me so much that raising flowers is the best work I can do. (Miss) Esther A. Ford, Winterport, Maine.

37. Will you please give me space in your *Cheerful Letter* paper to give my change of address? I have moved from Boomer, N. C., to N. Wilksboro, R. 2, N. C. I enjoy the papers and other things I receive so much, I don't want to miss them. (Mrs.) Ella Earp.

38. I am writing to thank the *Cheerful Letter* people for the reading they have sent me in the past, and hope they will still send me reading. I would be glad of some scraps for my quilts. I have a little boy who is not able to go to school, and would be glad of reading for him. His name is Willie, aged 10 years. He had two operations last summer and fall, also pneumonia and measles. If not asking too much I would be glad of bits of embroidery thread. (Mrs.) Lucy Eanes, Bassett, Va., Box 120.

#### *Change of Address*

Mrs. Eula Hall is now at Overstreet, Fla., care of Camp Drummond.

Mrs. C. W. Cherry from Sparenburg to Lamesa, Texas, R. 1.

Miss Martha Watson is at Batson, Ark.

Mrs. D. H. Womack from Athens to Calhoun, Tenn., R. 2.

Mrs. Ella Earp to North Wilkesboro, N. C., R. 2.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Despite the rule printed monthly that no one ask for money or clothing of our members, the rule of late is so flagrantly disregarded that, from now on, all persons asking for clothing or money will be dropped from our list. Will those who receive such letters kindly send them to headquarters? We are not an almsgiving society.

"God loveth a cheerful giver." God loves us when we are cheerful in sacrifice; cheerful in trial; cheerful in loneliness; cheerful even in our struggle with sin—knowing we shall come off more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

## THE PLANTING OF THE APPLE TREE

COME, let us plant the apple tree.  
Cleave the tough greensward with the spade;  
Wide let its hollow bed be made;  
There gently lay the roots, and there  
Sift the dark mould with kindly care,  
And press it o'er them tenderly,  
As round the sleeping infant's feet  
We softly fold the cradle-sheet;  
So plant we the apple tree.

What plant we in this apple tree?  
Buds which the breath of summer days  
Shall lengthen into leafy sprays;  
Boughs where the thrush, with crimson breast,  
Shall haunt and sing and hide her nest.

We plant, upon the sunny lea,  
A shadow for the noontide hour,  
A shelter from the summer shower,  
When we plant the apple tree.

What plant we in this apple tree?  
Sweets for a hundred flowery springs  
To load the May-wind's restless wings,  
When from the orchard row it pours  
Its fragrance through our open doors;  
A world of blossoms for the bee,  
Flowers for the sick girl's silent room,  
For the glad infant sprigs of bloom,  
We plant with the apple tree.

What plant we in this apple tree?  
Fruits that shall swell in sunny June,  
And redden in the August noon,  
And drop, when gentle airs come by,  
That fan the blue September sky,  
While children come, with cries of glee,  
And seek them where the fragrant grass  
Betrays their bed to those who pass,  
At the foot of the apple tree.

"Who planted this old apple tree?"  
The children of that distant day  
Thus to some aged man shall say;  
And, gazing on its mossy stem,  
The gray-haired man shall answer them:—  
"A poet of the land was he,  
Born in the rude but good old times;  
'Tis said he made some quaint old rhymes  
On planting the apple tree."

—William Cullen Bryant

A clever answer often turns away wrath. An official, with a frowning countenance, once approached Father Healy, the Irish wit. "Healy," said the official, "I've got a crow to pick with you." "Make it a turkey," said Father Healy, quickly, "and I'll join you at six sharp." What could the official do but smile?—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

*Answers to puzzles in February number*

## I. A STAIRWAY:

Cad  
cadmus  
muslin  
linden  
dental  
talcum  
cumber  
bertie  
tie

## II. GEOGRAPHICAL SQUARES:

|      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| UTAH | IOWA | OHI'O |
| TALE | OPEN | HOOP  |
| ALEA | WELT | IOTA  |
| HEAD | ANTS | OPAL  |

## III. HIDDEN FRUITS:

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Apple. | 2. Lemon. |
| 3. Pear.  | 4. Plum.  |
|           | 5. Melon. |

## THE CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE

## ITS PURPOSE

To cheer and comfort those who are ill, lonely, or discouraged, through the exchange of letters and by gifts of books and magazines.

To help those who live far from schools, or who wish to continue their studies by means of correspondence with a teacher.

To give to those living far from church some of the helps which churches give. One good sermon or similar article is printed in each number. These sermons are never doctrinal, but present only such simple religious truths and principles as are agreed on by all churches.

## WHERE TO WRITE

1. *Letters paying for subscriptions to the paper*, fifty cents a year, should be sent to the Cheerful Letter Exchange, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. Checks or postal orders should be made payable to the Cheerful Letter Exchange.

2. *Letters asking for correspondents, for books, magazines, cards, etc.*, also *letters offering to give books, magazines, etc.*, should be sent to Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass. See special suggestions under the heading of the "Book and Magazine Club" in this number.

3. *Letters asking for help in studying at home* should be sent to Mrs. George O. Sands, Brimble Ave., North Beverly, Mass.

The Home Study Committee has on hand a variety of schoolbooks which may be used by students either at home or in the schoolroom. The aim of the teachers is to help in any study where help is needed. Often this may fit a person for a higher grade of work.

4. *Letters asking for music and letters offering music* should be sent to Mrs. Thomas Lacey, at 4 East 88th St., New York City, or to All Souls Church, Fourth Ave. and 20th St., New York City.

5. *Letters about the establishment of Circulating Libraries* should be sent to Mrs. H. A. Stevens, 26 John St., Brookline, Mass.

A Circulating Library will be started in any small community needing one, if proper location and care can be furnished and satisfactory references can be given. One hundred and thirty-six libraries are now on our lists.

6. The Secretary of the Cheerful Letter Exchange, Miss Ethel L. Hersey, Hingham, Mass., should receive the more general correspondence from workers on the local committees, or from others interested in the organization and its methods.

*Notice to those who give:—*

Only books of an instructive or wholesomely amusing character should be offered. Classics, educational works, and standard novels and magazines are always acceptable.

There is a large call for scraps of calico, gingham, and percale for patchwork.

*To those who receive:—*

It is a rule of the Cheerful Letter Exchange that no one ask for money or for clothing in the columns of this paper. The name of any person who fails to obey this rule will be dropped from our list. Any worker receiving such a request should send the letter at once to headquarters.